



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/981,002

10/17/2001

Wayne M. Barnes

TKR 2050.1

6531

26263

7590

03/24/2006

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP  
P.O. BOX 061080  
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER  
CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080

EXAMINER

FREDMAN, JEFFREY NORMAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1637

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address : COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER
----------

ART UNIT	PAPER
----------	-------

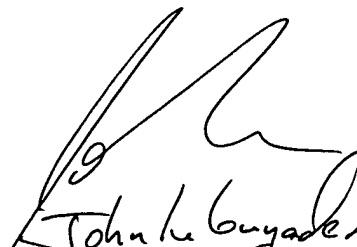
20060315


DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

All claims are allowable. However, due to Interference I-105,320, *ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

  
John H. Gayader  
Director TQ 1600

  
Jeffrey Fredman  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1637

3/15/06

**Application No.:** 09/981,002

**Examiner:** Fredman

**Art Unit:** 1637

**Date:** 3/15/06

Check the suspension listed below which is being requested and supply the information listed for such:

**A. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspension – Awaiting New Reference.** Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on a reference relevant to examination becoming available.

**Application No. as Potential Reference:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Status of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Previously Suspended On:** \_\_\_\_\_

**B. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspension – Possible Interference – Office or Applicant Initiated.** Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on a potential interference between pending but unrelated applications. Provide the interfering application numbers below.

**Interfering Party Application No.:** \_\_\_\_\_


**Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Previously Suspended On:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C. .   X   Suspension - Overlapping Applications by Same Applicant or Owned by Same Applicant (MPEP 709.1 and 2315.01).** Suspension of an application based on the outcome of a related application in interference to the same applicant or owned by the same applicant is to be avoided by prosecuting the application to the fullest extent. Such can be accomplished by treating as prior art the counts of the interference for the purpose of making provisional rejections and by insisting on proper lines of division or distinction between the applications. Use form paragraph 23.17 for a rejection based on the count of an interference. In some instances, suspension of action by the Office cannot be avoided (see MPEP 709.01). Interference Specialists Anthony Caputa, Cecilia Tsang, and/or Michael Woodward must be consulted for the approval to suspend action based on the outcome of pending interference using form paragraph 23.18.

**Interference Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ I-105,320 \_\_\_\_\_

**Application No. in Interference:** \_\_\_\_\_ 6,410,277 \_\_\_\_\_

**Interference Specialist Approval for Suspension:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Previously Suspended On:** \_\_\_\_\_ 8/12/05 \_\_\_\_\_

**D. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspension – Applicant Petition (37 CFR 1.103 (d), MPEP 709).** Any first or subsequent request by applicant to suspend Office action in an application requires a petition and a fee from the applicant, and can only be made in applications, which do **not** have an outstanding office action. The petition must present good and sufficient reasons why the suspension is necessary and must specify a period of suspension not greater than 6 months. **Petitions for suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103 are decided by the Group Director.** Requires approval by Bill Dixon.